

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating marine growth on a surface, including the steps of confining a volume adjacent a portion of the surface, introducing a heated fluid into the volume to heat the marine growth, moving the confined volume over the surface to treat other portions of the surface, ~~and retaining the confined volume adjacent the surface regardless of the orientation of the surface, and conforming the confined volume to the shape of the surface as the confined volume is moved over the surface.~~

2 (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the step of retaining the volume adjacent the surface is carried out utilising magnetism.

3. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1, including the further step of exhausting heated fluid from the confined volume as further heated fluid is introduced to the confined volume.

4. (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 3, wherein the heated fluid is exhausted into the surrounding environment.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with Claim ~~5~~1, wherein the heated fluid forms a layer over the portion of the surface.
7. (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the depth dimension of the confined volume is in the range of 2 to 50mm.
8. (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 7, wherein the depth dimension is in the range of 2 to 15mm.
9. (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the depth dimension is in the range of 2 to 10mm.
10. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1, including the further step of varying the temperature of the heated fluid during treatment, whereby to determine the most effective temperature.
11. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1, including the further step of varying a rate of introduction of the heated fluid during treatment, whereby to determine the most effective rate.
12. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the surface is a surface of a hull of a water-going craft.

13. (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the treatment is carried out under the water line of the craft while the craft is in the water.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) An apparatus for treating marine growth on a surface, including a confinement arrangement arranged to confine a volume adjacent a portion of the surface, the confinement arrangement being provided with an entry port arranged to enable introduction of a heated fluid to the volume, the confinement arrangement being movable over the surface to enable treatment of other portions of the surface, ~~and~~ the confinement arrangement further including a retaining means which is arranged to retain the confinement arrangement proximate the surface so that the volume remains adjacent the surface, regardless of the orientation of the surface, and the confinement arrangement further being arranged to conform with the shape of the surface as it is moved over the surface.

16. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 15, wherein the retaining means includes one or more magnets mounted to the confinement arrangement.

17. (Previously presented) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 15, the confinement arrangement further including an exhaust means enabling heated fluid that is being introduced into the volume to be exhausted from the volume.

18. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 17, the exhaust means including a flexible seal which borders the confinement arrangement.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) An apparatus in accordance with Claim ~~19~~15, wherein the confinement arrangement includes a flexible cover.

21. (Currently amended) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 20, wherein the flexible cover includes a number of ~~relatively~~-rigid components linked together so that they can move relative to each other to facilitate flexibility of the cover.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus in accordance with Claim ~~22~~15, wherein the confinement arrangement is such that the heated fluid introduced into the confined volume forms a layer over the portion of the surface.

24. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 23, wherein the depth dimension is in a range of 2 to 50mm.

25. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 24, wherein the depth dimension is in a range of 2 to 15mm.

26. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with Claim 25, wherein the depth dimension is in a range of 2 to 10mm.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)